



## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

**TO:** Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
FAX (916) 323-3018

**FROM:** Department of Parks and Recreation  
1416 Ninth Street  
P.O. Box 942896  
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

**PROJECT TITLE:** Path Upgrades to Guest Inn and Mott Training Center

**LOCATION:** Asilomar State Beach & Conference Grounds, Sunset Drive and Crocker Avenue, Pacific Grove

**COUNTY:** Monterey

### DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:

Replace asphalt path with decomposed granite (DG; gravel) path and eliminate trip hazards in remaining asphalt paths. The project area is located within the East Woods Complex of Asilomar State Beach and Conference Grounds. This area includes meeting rooms and guest lodging.

Part A: The asphalt path that is to be replaced with DG is located on the west side of Mott Training Center (MTC), continuing north past Guest Inn and ending at the southeast side of the Afterglow building.

Current condition: Part A is a 4-foot wide asphalt path that serves as both a pedestrian walkway and as a cart path for the Conference Ground staff & their electric carts that provide service to the buildings. When pedestrians and a cart are both on the path, the cart will yield to the pedestrians and drive with their wheels slightly off the cart path to allow the pedestrian to pass without having to leave the path. This has caused rutting along both sides of the path. This is a tripping hazard to pedestrians because of the uneven surface. There are also tree roots that have uplifted the path in several sections also posing tripping hazards.

Project Part A will remove the asphalt layer, leaving the base material. Additional base will be placed on either side of the existing path to make a 6-foot wide path that is then topped with DG, compacted and beveled on the edges to blend with existing natural surfaces. It is expected that the base material will be approximately 2-4 inches deep and the DG layer will be approximately 2-4 inches deep. There may be some minor trenching 1-2 feet wide and perhaps 6 feet deep alongside the existing path to match the grade of the existing soil under the base material. (Some of this area is already trenched due to the degraded conditions along the path edges.) Where trees obstruct the path on one side, the additional width will be established on the other side of the path to minimize impact to vegetation. If there are tree roots encountered more than 2 inches in diameter, the designated biological monitor will be consulted on whether the roots may be cut.

Part B: The asphalt that will be cut and replaced at sections that are uplifted is located between MTC, the parking lots that serve MTC, and the guest housing of Live Oak, Tree Tops and Deer Lodge. Current condition: Part B is an approximately 4-foot-wide asphalt path that serves as a pedestrian walkway between the lodging south of the MTC. There are numerous uplifted sections of asphalt paving due to tree roots that pose tripping hazards.

Project Part B will saw cut the uplifted asphalt sections and remove them. The area will be re-graded slightly to lessen the transition of the paving that the root uplifting had caused. If there are tree roots encountered more than 2 inches in diameter, the designated biological monitor will be consulted on whether the roots may be cut. The asphalt surface will then be patched with in-kind material to the existing width of current pathway.

**PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT:** California Department of Parks and Recreation

**NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT:** Monterey District

### EXEMPT STATUS:

☒ Categorical Exemption

Class: 1

Section: 15301

**REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:** Project consists of the repair, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing facilities or topographical features, involving no expansion of use and is included as "trail or road repairs" in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities, in accordance with CCR 15300.4.

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Mathew Fuzie  
Monterey District Superintendent

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